

The title of the your reading response goes here

Your Name Here

Reading Response #\_\_\_\_

Please get in the habit of following the format specified on this sheet for your reading responses (RRs). First of all, please do the RRs in single spacing with no indentation for paragraphs. When you get to a new paragraph, hit return twice and let the wordprocessing skip a line for you (look at the way THIS page is written). This formatting will make it easier down the line when we move to a digital platform where you will not be able to indent paragraphs the same way you do with print essays.

Every RR that you do needs to be in dialogue with the readings (what we call outside sources) and must also be at least 600 words long. You can make the RRs longer than 600 words but not SHORTER. You will also need to do APA in-text citations and a bibliography for every RR. Most gender studies articles today publish with APA style so that is what we will follow. There will be links on the course website to take you to an APA workbook. When in doubt, however, just use the PURDUE OWL. Look it up on google.

Whenever you mention an author's name, there should be a year in parentheses indicating when the text was published. This is what APA expects (and what your other classes expect). Here is a sample sentence: *In "The Uses of Anger," Audre Lorde (1981) challenges the traditions of respectability politics and gives us license and legitimation to speak back to oppression rather than simply submit to it.* Notice that the author and the title of the piece are named. Get in the habit of doing this. If you do not have permission to she or he someone, go with they when using pronouns... or mix the pronouns up! Do not make assumptions or impose gender assignments. Beginning in the second week of class, you will be selecting your own reading. It will be impossible to know what text you are referencing in your RR unless you name the author and title of the text. You need to do both to get the full three points of an RR. Please remember that the RRs are the bulk of your grade in the course. The ePortfolio also counts towards your grade but the ePortfolio is simply a collection of the RRs. In other words, DO THE RRs... or take the class again.

When you use a direct quote from an author, you will need to indicate page number. The page number and publication information should be on each reading in the course. If you cannot find it, just email [professorkynard@gmail.com](mailto:professorkynard@gmail.com) and that information will be added to the online repository of articles.

When you write your RRs, do your best to create an interesting introduction. DO NOT ever start any sentence, essay, or paragraph with: *The essay that I read for today was . . . I liked this essay because.... This essay was interesting because....* These kinds of writings make you sound like a str8-up middle or high school student who is answering questions at the back of a textbook. You need to make an interesting argument in your introduction or tell a good story...and then follow through on it while incorporating your ideas about what you have read.

Do your best. Treat your RRs as the place where you are experimenting with your own style and pushing yourself to articulate your politics. Do more than just fulfill another school assignment. As you will see, the length and APA requirements are the only formatting issues that are really expected of you in the RRs. The content and style of your writing are not being prescribed for you in this class. That's not what it means to write. I am not telling you what to say or how to say it. Yall's grown... yall can do that for yourselves. Plus, there is little use in writing in such a way that only a college professor will ever read your words. That's a very limited and uninteresting use of writing. SO WRITE! BE FREE! (697 words)